



RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
LANSING



KEITH CREAGH
DIRECTOR

April 26, 2013

RECEIVED

MAY 02 2013

BEDFORD TOWNSHIP
CLERK

Ms. Trudy L. Hershberger
Bedford Township Clerk
8100 Jackman Road, P.O. Box H
Temperance, Michigan 48182

Dear Ms. Hershberger:

SUBJECT: Hunting Area Control – Bedford Township, Monroe County

The Department of Natural Resources (Department) has, as requested by the Bedford Township Board, conducted an investigation into the need for a Hunting Area Control for Bedford Township.

A hearing was held on February 12, 2013 at the Bedford Township Hall, pursuant to Part 419 of Public Act 451, as amended, to determine if an ordinance was needed to address possible problems related to the discharge of firearms within the Township.

The investigation also included site visits, contacts with local law enforcement officials, a review of hunting or shooting complaints in the area, and a review of hunting accidents and/or hunter casualties in the area. A copy of the report detailing the Department's findings is enclosed.

The necessity to establish a Hunting Area Control is based on the need for public safety, beyond which the enforcement of existing regulations is determined to be inadequate. Factual incidents involving public safety issues and other such evidence or documentation that a safety problem exists must govern the Department's recommendation for a Hunting Area Control ordinance. No testimony or evidence of substantive incidents was provided during the public hearing or during the investigation which would warrant a Hunting Area Control. **Accordingly, the request for a new Hunting Area Control is denied.**

Should the need arise to address safety concerns related to the careless or reckless discharge of firearms, in addition to contacting local law enforcement officials, you may also contact the DNR District Law Supervisor for your area, Lt. David Malloch, at 248-359-9040. Complaints of unsafe firearm activities may also be referred to the Department's 24-hour Dispatch Center at 1-800-292-7800.

Sincerely,

Lt. Andrew Turner
Law Enforcement Division
Recreational Safety, Enforcement & Education
517-373-7109

Enclosure

cc: Mr. Greg Stewart, Bedford Township Supervisor
Sheriff Dale Malone, County of Monroe
Lt. Dave Malloch, DNR
Specialist Peggy Ruby, DNR